

# My Little Pony™

## THE GRAND PONY PARADE





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One morning, Majesty called all the little ponies to Dream Castle to tell them some really exciting news.

"In three days time we are going to have a visit from King Toffee, Queen Marshmallow and little Princess Jellibean," she said. "I shall show them around the Show Stable, the Grooming Parlour and



the Lullaby Nursery before we return to Dream Castle. Sunbeam is putting on a lovely party for the royal family from Sweet Land, but before this, I want to hold a Grand Pony Parade so that they can meet you all. I want you all to prepare a float to pull in a procession before us. Will you do that?"



"Pony feathers, of course we will!" cried Cotton Candy. "Come on, everyone, there's lots of work to do before the royal visit!"

"There certainly is. I shan't have a moment to spare! I must get lots of delicious food prepared . . . and make sure there are plenty of sweet treats for the princess!" said Sunbeam.





"They all love sweets. Don't forget they live in Sweet Land," laughed Majesty as she went inside to decide what to wear for the visit. "Now don't forget, ponies, the floats must be ready by dawn, three days from now!"

All the little ponies set to work at once.



Honeycomb showed Cotton Candy where the loveliest flowers could be found and together they made a pretty floral bower.

"Pony feathers, that does look pretty," said Cherries Jubilee, who had made a floral boat float with the help of Posey and Blossom. "It just needs . . ."

"What?" cried Honeycomb and Cotton Candy, eager for the float to look perfect.





"A little baby pony sitting among the flowers?" suggested Posey.

"Pony feathers, *what* a good idea! How about Baby Cotton Candy?"

"Oh, yes please," cried the little baby pony.

"Can I sit in the flower boat as





well?" begged Baby Blossom.

"Of course you can," laughed Blossom. "Just make sure you don't oversleep on the day and miss the parade! You know what a little sleepyhead you are!"

"I'll be first to get up!" promised Baby Blossom. "I wouldn't miss the Grand Parade for anything!"

Lemon Drop had been given the task of arranging a platform for the royal visitors and Majesty and Spike to view the parade. She had made it just like a giant cream whirl with seats on top so the visitors could get a really good view.

"Well done, Lemon Drop," cried Majesty as she looked at it. "Now off you go and see how the others are getting on with their floats!"









"I bet Applejack has made her float with apples," chuckled Lemon Drop as she hurried off to the orchard to see.

Applejack and Bow Tie had strung red and green apples from brightly coloured ribbons all round the float and in the middle, Confetti had made a lovely green paper tree that Sparkler had decorated with coloured baubles.

"I do like your float!" cried Lemon Drop. "Are you leading the parade?"

"No, Medley is leading. Her magic hooves will tell everyone that the parade is on its way," explained Applejack. "Pony feathers, it *is* exciting! I do hope it won't rain!"



"Happy hooves, I've just had a word with the Weather Witch! She's promised us fine weather during the royal visit!" called Firefly, suddenly appearing overhead. "And just wait till you see my float. You're all in for a surprise!"



"I do hope Bubbles remembers to have a wash before she appears before the king and queen," whispered Peachy to Trickles as they watered the flowers outside the Show Stable. "You know how she loves rolling about in mud!"

"Pony feathers, Sprinkles and Duck Soup have promised to make sure that she does," replied Trickles. "There'll be no dirty little ponies that day!"





And Trickle was quite right! Every pony in Pony Land made quite sure that she had paid a visit to the Grooming Parlour so that their manes and tails were smartly brushed. Bow Tie provided pretty ribbons for everyone. There were even pretty ribbon bows for Twinkles, Brandy and Spike.



King Toffee and Queen Marshmallow were most impressed with Lemon Drop's collection of cups when they visited the Show Stable, and little Princess Jellibean insisted on trying out the Lullaby Swing. "I must have one just like it when we get home!" she laughed.

"So you shall," promised Majesty. "But now it is time for our Grand Pony Parade. Come along and choose a seat!"



"It's the first time I've ever sat down in a cream whirl," chuckled King Toffee as he plumped down beside the queen and his little daughter.

"Oh, listen, what lovely music. Here's Medley, the parade is on its way!" cried Queen Marshmallow, looking eagerly across the meadows.

Next came Parasol, waving her tail like a harp. She was pulling a float on which sat Heart Throb and her lovebirds, who sang a sweet song of welcome to the visitors.



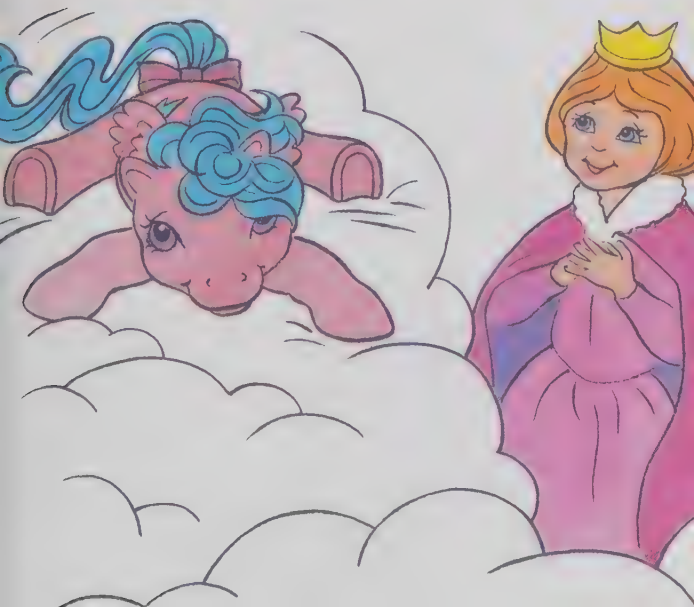




Then came Firefly . . . and what a surprise! Her float was full of soft fleecy clouds. Several baby ponies were jumping up and down performing very clever acrobatic tricks while above the float, tiny Baby Firefly performed her first double loop.

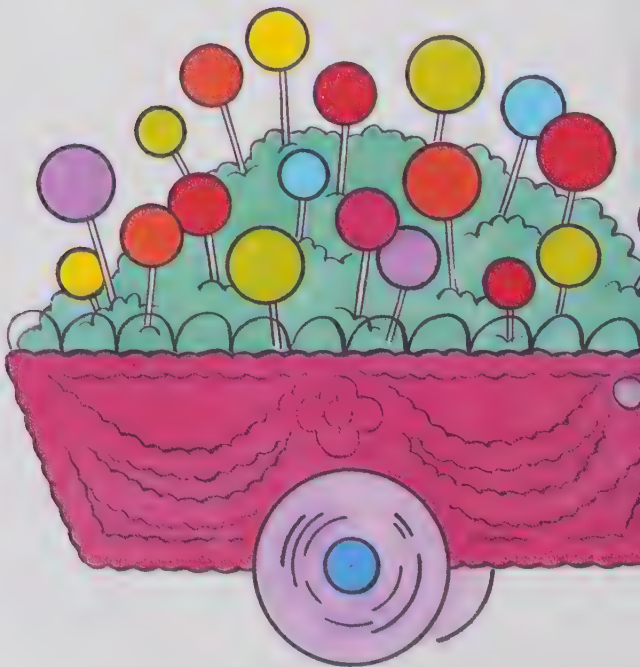
"Oh, do take care, Baby Firefly," called Princess Jellibean. She clapped in delight as Baby Firefly landed safely on a fleecy cloud.

"I knew she could do it!" said Firefly proudly.



"Here comes Tootsie. Oh, look! A lollipop garden!" said Queen Marshmallow. "I'd love one!"

"Bave a hush!" cried Tootsie, mixing her words up in her excitement and, to the queen's





delight, a little lollipop bush sprang up by the side of the royal platform.

"Caramel and clotted cream!" she cried. "My favourite flavour. How did you know?"





"Oh, look! Twilight has lit up her dark forest of trees with tiny star lamps," cried Princess Jellibean. "And look! Moondancer is peeping through the trees and there's the Sandman with his sack on his way home!"

One by one the floats passed by, each one delighting the visitors while Majesty smiled proudly, very pleased with her little ponies' efforts.





Gypsy danced round a flower  
campfire waving her tambourine.

"Gypsy's float looks just like a caravan!" cried King Toffee. "And look at the snow castle Powder has made. It even has snowflakes falling onto it!"

The floats had grouped round the platform in a large circle when suddenly Sunbeam came running out of Dream Castle in great distress! "Majesty, I was just putting the finishing touches to our feast in the throne room when Giant Greedy burst in. He was bigger than ever and, before I could stop him, he filled his simply enormous basket with *all* our food and marched off to his castle," said Sunbeam sadly. "We can't catch up with him because he is wearing his seven league boots. One stride takes him many miles!"

"Heavy hooves, does that mean there will be no party now?" cried the baby ponies and Princess Jellibean, looking very upset.

"Of course not. Don't look so sad! We still have plenty of food







here," said Majesty with a smile.

She twirled her magic horn and, walking up to several of the floats, she sang softly at each one:

*"Objects on each float please  
heed,*

*Turn into the food we need!"*



Everyone stared in bewilderment at Majesty and then at the floats. Whatever did Majesty mean? Well, Flutterbye's float was filled with flowers and butterflies but as she watched in surprise, the coloured butterflies turned into brightly coloured butterfly biscuits and the flowers became pretty cakes!



"Pony feathers, look! My castle has turned to ice-cream," laughed Powder, tasting it gingerly with her hoof.

"My apples have turned to toffee," called Applejack. "And the ribbons have become barley sugar sticks!"

"I love barley sugar!" cried Queen Marshmallow, rushing over and picking up a stick.





"Look! All my comets and stars have changed to silver sugar sweets!" shouted Glory. "Pony feathers, they're delicious! Try one, Pinwheel!"

"Happy hooves, our boat has turned into a big cherry cake!" cried Baby Blossom, breaking off a piece and nibbling it.

"I love cherry cake!" shouted King Toffee. "Please may I have a slice?"

"Certainly. I think our party is turning into a picnic," laughed Majesty. "Come along, everyone. Just choose what you would like to eat from the floats. I'm sure you'll find something you like!"

And, of course, they did! The baby ponies simply loved the chocolate feathers that decorated Tickle's float and the marzipan leaves that had fallen from the trees on Gusty's float. Surprise's balloons had turned into giant pink marshmallows especially for the queen and Skyflier's kites had become slices of golden gingerbread. One or two of these were rather hard, though, so



Hopscotch used them as markers when she taught Princess Jellibean how to play hopscotch.





"I shall teach this game to all my ladies-in-waiting when I get back home to Sweet Land," smiled Princess Jellibean as she nibbled a sugar snowflake.

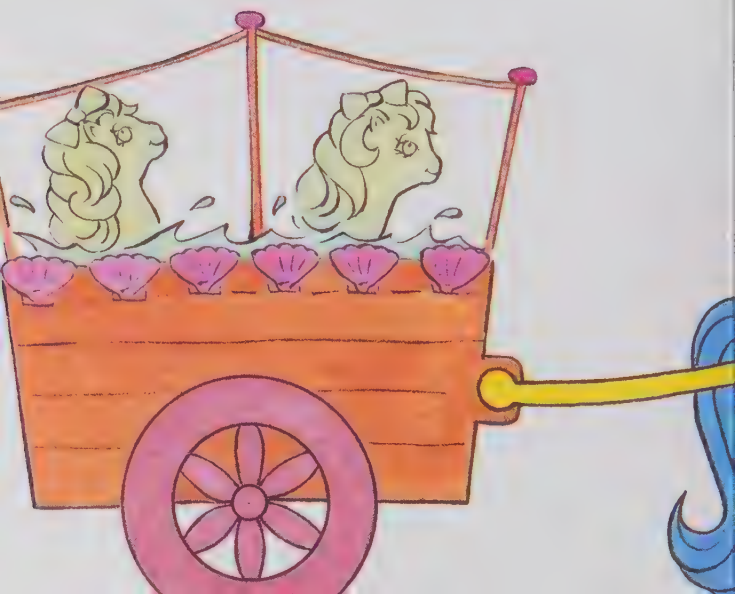
"Do you know, my dear, I think this is the best party we have ever



been to," stated King Toffee to Queen Marshmallow, as they admired the sugared sea ponies on Sprinkles' float. "And I do believe those ponies are swimming in a peppermint ice sea!"

"Indeed they are," laughed Sprinkles. "But they started out as models of Sea Star and Sea Shimmer! The Weather Witch helped me make them from the clouds!"

"Just wait till we tell the sea



ponies how they turned to sugar and swam in a peppermint sea," laughed Medley. "They will be surprised!"

"You'll have to wait until tomorrow. The Man in the Moon is beginning to light the stars," said





Majesty. "It's time little ponies were fast asleep!"

"And little princesses, too," cried Queen Marshmallow. "We've just got time to get home before dark. Thank you for a lovely party, and the best pony parade that I have ever seen!"







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## **TITLES IN THIS SERIES:**

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**GUSTY AND THE GE**

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